

Barming vision

Do you care about the future of Barming? What do you believe Barming needs? Do you want a say, or are you happy for others to make the decisions for us?

Your Parish Council is here to help. The sections below show our history, our heritage, our community and our natural environment.

Our history

The history of Barming is best told through maps. These show how the parish has expanded over the years and grown into the community we know today.

Barming in 1870



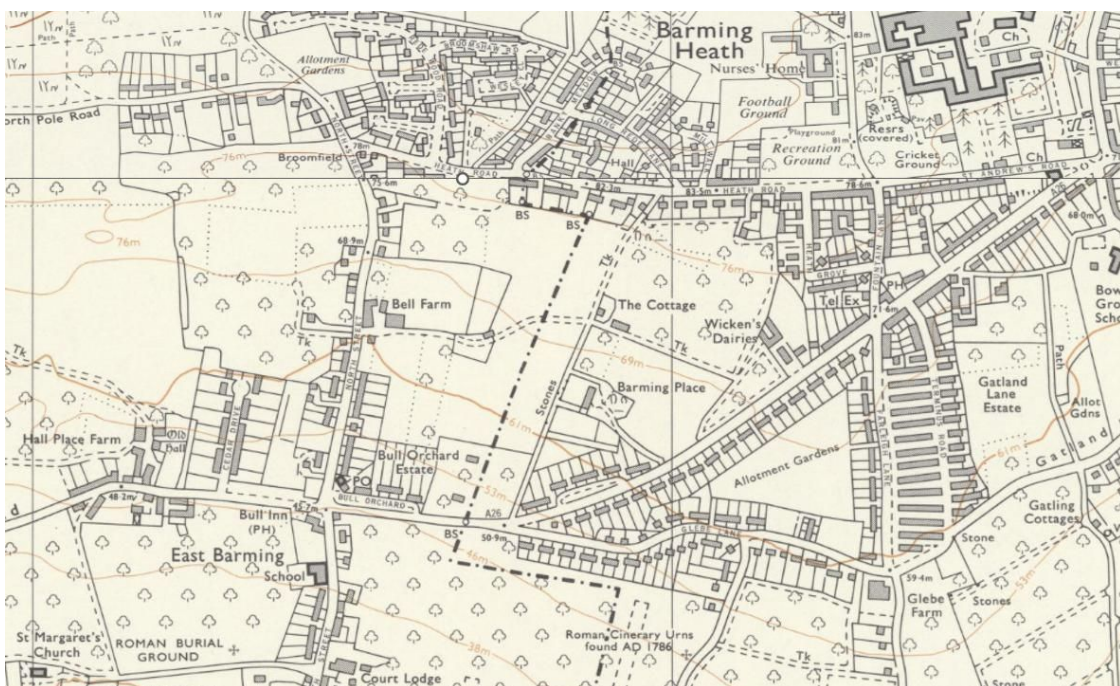
In 1870, Barming was a small settlement centred around Barming House at the bottom of North Street, surrounded by fields, hop gardens and orchards, with no significant development along Heath Road or Tonbridge Road.

Barming in 1940



By 1940, significant development had taken place along Tonbridge Road and Glebe Lane, yet Barming remained a predominantly rural area of farms, orchards and fields. Maidstone was beginning to expand with housing off Fountain Lane, and the Barming we know today was starting to take shape.

Barming in the 1960s



By the 1960s, Barming as we know it today was really coming together. The area around the Post Office at Bull Orchard was developed, along with Cedar Drive, and housing along and to the north of Heath Road began to emerge. It was during this period that the allotment gardens in Glebe Lane and North Pole Road were formally established.

Barming in the 1970s and beyond



Barming as we know it today was largely completed with the full development of the Beverley Estate in the 1970s. More recently, the Peafield development is nearing completion, and the old nurses' home has been replaced with houses and apartments. The question now for our community is this: what comes next for Barming?

Our heritage

The heritage of Barming is demonstrated through the landscape we live with, the open space we enjoy and the past we remember.

St Margaret's Church



Our church, St Margaret's in the Fields, in the early morning: hauntingly beautiful.

The Wayside Cross



The Wayside Cross in North Pole Road is part of our history. It was erected in memory of Horace William Fletcher, who laid down his life in Palestine in the Great War.

Commonwealth War Graves



Quiet and hidden but much loved, the Commonwealth War Graves site in Oakapple Lane is a tranquil space used by walkers and those in need of quiet space for reflection.

Oaken Woods



Oaken Woods is a haven for bluebells, dog walkers and nature. Located along North Pole Road, it is a much loved and well used local amenity.

The Medway Valley



The Medway Valley south of the A26, sweeping all along the river through to Teston and beyond to Watringbury, provides stunning views and riverside walks: all part of its place in our landscape.

Our community

The community of Barming is demonstrated through the activities and the facilities provided by and for our many clubs and societies.

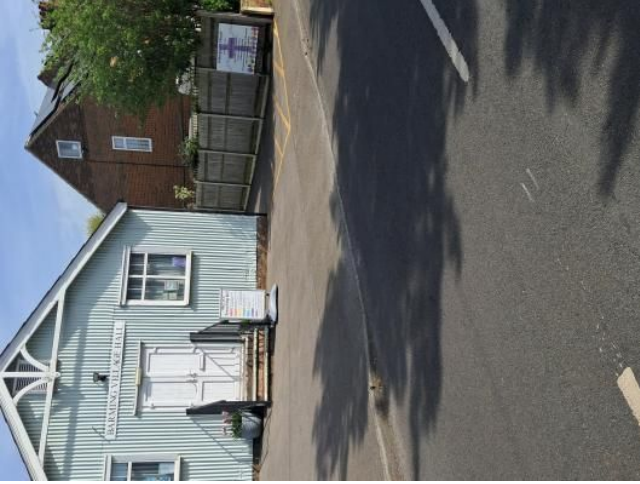
Barming Heath



Barming Heath provides football pitches, a play area and space for us all to enjoy.

Our halls

We have three excellent halls to use: the Parish Hall on the A26, the Village Hall on Heath Road and the Pavilion off Church Lane.



Our public houses

We have four excellent public houses to enjoy. All offer entertainment and good cheer for our community.





Shops and the Post Office

Barming has two good convenience stores offering a wide range of UK and international groceries, alongside a Post Office providing essential postal and banking services to the community.





What's on



The noticeboard gives a flavour of what is available, but there is much more.

St Margaret's newsletter

St Margaret's Barming, led by Reverend Wil North, has an active congregation with a wide variety of events for all ages across our community. The weekly newsletter lists services, home groups, clubs and contact details.

The Parish of Barming with Teston
26th April 2026
4th Sunday of Easter

10am CW Holy Communion in St Margaret's, Barming
Theme:
Songs

1. Great is Thy Faithfulness	(AHON 273)
2. How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds	(AHON 321)
3. The Lord's my Shepherd (Townend)	(AHON 724)
4. The head that Once was Crowned with...	(AHON 711)

Bible Readings

- Acts 2 v42-47 (Page 1094)
- John 10 v1-10 (Page 1076)

10am Children's Church in St Peter & St Paul, Teston
10am Engage & Praise in Barming Village Hall, Heath Road

New to St Margaret's?
There's a toilet with baby change near the blue chairs. Children are welcome in our services, and at the bottom of the tower (doors near font) there is an unsupervised crèche area.
If you plan to become a regular member of our church family, please complete and return a *Newcomers Card (on the font)* so that our Rector Wil can introduce himself and get to know you better.

Financial Collections During Services
We do not pass an offering plate around church. If you would like to contribute financially to the life and ministry of the church, please put donations in the box by the door or scan the QR Code Below. There is also a card reader in the box pew. If you would like to give regularly, please ask about a standing order form.



The parish operates the Rochester Diocese Safeguarding Policy and the House of Bishops Steps to Safer Recruitment.

Barming Youth Football Club



Barming Youth Football Club fields more than 40 teams each week through the season, catering for all ages and both genders from age four through to veterans, engaging more than 800 local residents every week.

The club currently plays primarily at Oakwood Park, but through its Project Homeland initiative it is looking to establish dedicated facilities within Barming itself. The club makes a significant and meaningful contribution to the health and wellbeing of the local community, and that contribution deserves full recognition.

Our natural environment

River, orchards and woods

Our access to the natural environment around Barming is essential to our wellbeing. The River Medway, walks through the orchards and Barming Woods are among the much-loved features of our parish that residents cherish and wish to see protected for future generations.





Abingdon Road Green



Our access to trees and open spaces is something residents value highly. Green spaces like Abingdon Road Green, at the heart of a residential neighbourhood, sheltered by mature trees and a natural place for children to play, provide informal recreation, natural beauty and a sense of community that enhances the quality of life for those living around them.

Allotments



The two allotment sites we have within the parish, with more than 200 allotments, provide a vital community resource, bringing together residents of all ages to grow their own food, foster neighbourly connections and maintain a cherished green space within the parish.

Barming Primary School



KEY INFORMATION

[Home](#) >> [Key Information](#)

Barming is well served by a thriving primary school with more than 200 pupils, providing excellent education at the heart of our community.

Public transport

Barming is well connected for public transport, with East Farleigh railway station within the parish and Barming railway station close by, both providing regular links to London. Residents also benefit from a half-hourly bus service to Maidstone and Tonbridge from Bull Orchard, as well as the 78 bus service via Fant.



Some orchards no longer being cropped

Whilst around half of the orchards south of Tonbridge Road have recently been replanted following a significant six-figure investment, and should remain productive for the next 20 years, at least 12 hectares adjacent to Glebe Lane are no longer being cropped and are at risk of development.



Where next?

This document gives an overview of what we have, where we have come from, and an insight into what is a vibrant and active community. But how do we develop, preserve and expand all that is great about our parish?

Barming vision, May 2024. Accessible document version, July 2026. Published by Barming Parish Council.